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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /061 W
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O R 011007Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 908
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USCINCEUR
USIA WASHDC
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
CINCUSAFE
CINCUSNAVEUR
USNMR SHAPE
SECDEF WAHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 7458

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MARR, US, TU
SUBJ: ECEVIT COMMENTS ON EMBARGO VOTE

REF: ANKARA 7328

1. REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) HAS GIVEN US ADVANCE COPY OF EXCERPTS FROM CAMPAIGN SPEECH WHICH RPP CHAIRMAN ECEVIT IS TO GIVE AT AMASYA TODAY (OCTOBER 1) AND IN WHICH HE DISCUSSES THE EXPECTED CONGRESSIONAL DECISION ON THE ARMS EMBARGO. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF EXCERPTS:
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BEGIN QUOTE:

A NEW DECISION BY THE AMERICAN CONGRESS IN REGARD TO
THE ARMS EMBARGO IS EXPECTED MOMENTARILY. THE FACT THAT THE
TIMING OF THE DEBATE ON THIS SUBJECT IN CONGRESS COINCIDES WITH
THE ELECTIONS IN TURKEY BEARS NO (RPT NO) SPECIAL IMPORTANCE
FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW. NO PARTY IN TURKEY WOULD MAKE THE
TIMING OF A DECISION CONNECTED WITH OUR COUNTRY'S SECURITY A
SUBJECT OF DEBATE WITH DOMESTIC POLITICAL COMPUTATIONS (IN MIND).

THERE ARE TWO POINTS THAT WE DO FIND STRANGE:

THE FIRST IS THAT WHILE NOBODY IN TURKEY WAS CONSIDERING
THE SUBJECT FROM AN INTERNAL POLITICAL ANGLE, SOME MEMBERS OF
THE AMERICAN CONGRESS WHO ARE KNOWN TO BE CLOSE TO THE
PRESIDENT ATTEMPTED TO USE THE TURKISH ELECTIONS AS A FACTOR
OF INFLUENCE REGARDING CONGRESS' DECISION. MOREOVER THIS CO-
INCIDED WITH THE DAYS WHEN THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT DECLARED THAT
INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES WAS A RIGHT.

LET ME SAY IN THE LANGUAGE OF COMMER THAT IT WOULD

BE 'A REQUIREMENT OF THEIR OWN INTERESTS' FOR OUR AMERICAN
FRIENDS, WHO DESPITE ALL THEIR INFORMATION SOURCES DO NOT
UNDERSTAND TURKISH INTERNAL POLITICS, TO CONDUCT THEMSELVES
MORE CAREFULLY ON THIS SUBJECT.

THE SECOND POINT THAT WE FIND STRANGE IS THAT (CONGRESS')
AGREEING TO SEND US OUR WEAPONS THAT HAD ALREADY BEEN PAID FOR
IS BEING PRESENTED AS IF IT WERE A FAVOR TO TURKEY. IF THE
AMERICAN CONGRESS TAKES THIS DECISION, IT WILL HAVE FULFILLED
THE REQUIREMENTS NOT OF FRIENDSHIP AND ALLIANCE BUT OF BUSINESS
ETHICS. END QUOTE.

2. COMMENT: FRIST PARAGRAPH, WE WERE TOLD BY RPP LIAISON
OFFICER, IS RESPONSIVE TO EXPLANATION OF U.S. POSITION GIVEN
EARLIER TO RPP BY EMBOFF (REFTEL). AS REGARDS STATEMENT THAT
"AMERICAN PRESIDENT DECLARED THAT INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL
AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES WAS A RIGHT", IMMEDIATELY UPON
READING TEXT WE SENT RPP HEADQUARTERS A COPY OF PRESIDENT FORD'S
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QUESTION-ANSWER SESSION WITH STANFORD STUDENTS (ERRONEOUS
REPORT OF WHICH IN TURKISH PRESS WAS BASIS OF ECEVIT'S REMARK),
AND WE HAVE DISCUSSED MATTER WITH RPP LIAISON OFFICER (HIGHER
RANKING PARTY OFFICIALS ARE ALL OUT OF TOWN CAMPAIGNING). HOW-
EVER, APPARENTLY ECEVIT IS ALREADY AT ELECTION RALLY IN AMASYA
AND THERE IS NO RPT NO PRACTICAL POSSIBILITY OF DELETING REMARK FROM
SPEECH.
BERGUS

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